progress made during these years.

181 Estonians are great individualists--not a docile people easily led through their herd instinct.

[361] Farmhouses in Estonian villages are not so close together as the Russian ones are; they are situated at some distance from each other to give the people more privacy. There is perseverance, tenacity, and endurance in the character of most Estonians. They are industrious and obstinate like the Finns, but they seem to possess more elasticity and their temperament is livelier. Estonian country people have a strong attachment for the soil and they have deep

[538] love for their fathers' homes. Estonian literature often emphasizes this sentiment, notably Tammsaare's great novel, Truth and Justice.

181 For this reason collectivization of farms by

474 the Communists was a great tragedy for the

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

181 474 [44] [87] Estonians which they tried to resist as long as they could. Not only economically but also psychologically the formerly free Estonian farmers feel themselves to be kolkhoz slaves. As a recent refugee from Soviet Estonia has said, this year the situation has been made even more desperate and more like a medieval feudalism by the forbidding of kolkhoz workers to send their children to city schools. The result of this order is that the rural Estonians are attached to the soil with their entire families. Under these circumstances the people are unhappy, and it will be a long time before they are adjusted, if they ever can adjust, to this kind of life. They do their required work because they well know what the alternative is--deportation and ill treatment, perhaps even death, in remote Russia.

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725 from Estonia tell that armed resistance continued in Estonia through 1946. In the winter of 1946-47 large-scale "tactial maneuvers" were organized and the forests along Lake Peipus and in Alutaguse, Virumaa, as well as in Pärnumaa and Võrumaa were combed. These operations broke the large-scale resistance of the Forest Brothers.

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177,47
474 The Second Soviet Occupation continued where the first had ended, only the Soviets were now much more self-confident and violent and they had more time. Everything that even slightly resembled the Western economic and cultural systems had to be changed to match the USSR's Estonian agriculture was collectivized with the help of a large-scale mass deportation in March, 1949. Without such measures of terror the Soviets could not break the resistance of the

727 Estonian farmers who were attached to their
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177 homes and land, bought with hard labor from the
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474 German estate owners some generations before.
With the collectivization of agriculture the Estonian farm owners have become attached to the large kolkhozes, and Estonian industry has been organized according to the needs of the Soviet Union, its production going mainly to the USSR.

871 Political indoctrination is carried out in all
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208 schools from kindergarten through the university; persecution of the Church seemed to be much more obvious now than it was during the First Occupation.[1]

642 The members of the government of the Esto-
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nian SSR and other Communist officials who escaped to Russia when the Germans occupied Estonia, returned and resumed their duties as

[1] [See cat. 116, pp. 57-65, 72 -- Analyst]

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

000 been interesting to watch the results of this kind of occupation-class representation, but it was in effect too short a time for any conclusion to be drawn concerning its effectiveness.

177. .56 565 At the present time there is nothing left in the Estonian SSR of the former class divisions, the political parties or other social organizations. Classes at the present time are those of the Soviet Union: the large workers' class and the hierarchy of the privileged members of the Communist Party, the Red Army, the MVD (secret police) and other Communist officials.

• 474 241 Among the most important organizations in Estonia were the co-operative enterprises, which were started as early as the National Awakening[1] in the middle of the nineteenth

[1] [see cat. 116, pp. 26-30 -122- -- Analyst]

●474 241 century among the farmers (in the form of co-operative dairies, farmers' societies, co-operative credit banks, etc.), and which later developed into a large-scale movement, the Estonian Co-operative League, which benefited both producer and consumer. Modern methods were introduced to the farmer, and expensive farm machinery was bought on a co-operative basis.

[184] Before Estonia had gained her independence, this co-operative movement had nationalistic overtones, for it emphasized to the people that by improving her economy Estonia could in turn improve her status as a nation. Jaan Tõnisson's daily Postimees enthusiastically plugged these farmers' co-operatives. Economic aspects of the co-operatives are discussed in Subparagraph 3e, DOMESTIC TRADE.[1]

000 Temperance societies were already well

[1] [See cat. 116, pp. 381-3 = 123 - Analyst]

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

241 423 Agriculture Under the Soviet Occupation. The maximum amount of land left to the Estonian farmers during the First Soviet Occupation was 30 hectares (72 acres); during the Second Occupation it was reduced to 20 ha. (38 acres). At the same time, small 12-hectare patches of land were given to new settlers and over one hundred big state farms (sovkhozes)were founded. These new 12-ha. farms were uneconomical and not self-supporting, and furthermore, the terms of their leases were too short, the taxes and production requirements too heavy. For these reasons many tenants gave them back to the State, and as a result, there occurred an 11 per cent decrease in the cultivation of arable land. As the other farmers were also very heavily burdened with taxes and requisitions, private farming was ruined and kolkhozation was

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474 effected.

The first collective farm was established in Estonia in 1947. Latest reports from Estonia reveal that forcible kolkhozation has been by now almost completed (98 per cent). The workers are permitted to keep 0.5 ha. per family for gardening purposes. Regardless of the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the kolkhoz system, it provides for the Soviets an easy way to control the workers. The Soviet leaders' official claim has always been that the productivity of large kolkhozes of the U.S.S.R. is much higher than that of the small farms of Estonia, while E. Poom in his comparative study of Soviet and Estonian agricultural achievements indicates that the productivity of Estonia's small farms was in every respect far higher than that of the collective farms of the Soviet Union. The

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474 following table shows the percentage of marketable productions in the total value of farm produce:

	1932-33		1937-39	
	Estonia	USSR	Estonia	USSR
Grain	53	33	55	38
Potatoes	42	13	53	19
Flax Fibers	74	64	86	55
Milk and Dairy Produce	83	23	86	29

The last war and the occupations destroyed Estonian livestock and production has dropped immensely. In the following table are compared the compulsory delivery quotas per hectare of Estonian kolkhozes in 1951 with quantities sold by Estonian farmers per hectare in 1939:

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Marketable Production Per Hectare Agricultural Land

	Estonian farms in 1939	Estonian kolkhozes in 1951
Milk	304.1 liters	13 liters
Meat	11.4 kg.	2 kg.
Eggs	112	17

[262] The Estonian farm population was well fed before the Soviet occupation, whereas the diet of the kolkhoz workers seems to be far from adequate. In 1939 Estonian farmers used themselves 37 liters of milk per hectare, 56 eggs per hectare, and about the same amount of meat which they sold. According to an estimation by the top Estonian economist, E. Poom, there

1;Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

241 occurred in the Estonian SSR the following per-
474 centage decrease by 1950 as compared to 1939: arable land, 12 per cent; horses, 3 per cent; cattle, 21 per cent; pigs, 10 per cent; sheep and goats, 48 per cent; butter production, 49 per cent; meat production, 66 per cent.

The average size of the kolkhozes in Estonia is 2,000 hectares. Exact data about kolkhoz
[175] equipment are lacking, but according to Vaba Eesti Sõna 5 May 1955, there are now 69 machine and tractor stations in the Estonian SSR, with 200-300 personnel in each. Reports, according to the same source, are that the tractors frequently break down and work goes unfinished.

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1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

Annex "A," Subparagraph 3e,

Economic Background

DOMESTIC TRADE

471 441 Private trade was ended at the beginning of the Soviet Occupation according to the same pattern as industry. The larger firms were nationalized and on the smaller ones were levied such heavy taxes that after some months their doors were closed. Moreover, these small private firms could not receive any new supplies from the nationalized wholesale stores.

474 441 The population of an urban area is supplied by State trading establishments (torgs or markets) while the co-operatives take care of the rural population. The change in the co-operative movement was almost as great as in the trade unions. Soviet authorities took over the co-operatives, replaced the leading

474 441 officials with their own men and put the co-operatives under the dual control of the People's Commissariat for Trade and "Tsentrosoiuz," the Moscow co-operative headquarters. As a result, with orders coming from both quarters, there was much confusion. The co-operative movement was very popular in independent Estonia; there were 208 societies with 600 shops, handling over one-fourth of the retail and about one-half of the export trade, with a monopoly of butter, eggs and bacon. Under the Communist rule workshops and restaurants were all incorporated in the co-operatives. Prior to kolkhozation the trading operations of the farmers were also controlled by Communist co-operatives.

[511] Due to the shortage of consumer goods the co-operatives are not able to supply the people with the articles they are entitled to buy.

575 all the Livonians who were nationality con-
517 scious, and became the center of the Livonian revival. The Society had its choir, dramatic company, library, etc. With the help of the Estonian, Finnish and Hungarian brother nations, a modern "house of culture" was erected for the Society. The work of the Society was stopped upon the occupation of Latvia by the Soviet Union in 1940.

474 The only economic associations were the co-operatives, which were organized for the sale of fish and procurement of fishing gear.

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C O N S T I T U T I O N

(Fundamental Law)

of the

ESTONIAN

SOVIET SOCIALIST

REPUBLIC

of August 25, 1940

As amended to November 1947

Chapter I. The Social Structure

042 Art. 1. The Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic is a socialist state of workers and peasants.

Art. 2. The political foundation of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic is the Soviets of Working People's Deputies, firmly established as a result of the overthrow of the power of the capitalists and big landowners and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Art. 3. All power in the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic belongs to the working people of town and country as represented by the Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

471 Art. 4. The economic foundation of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic is the socialist system of economy and the socialist ownership of the instruments and means of production, firmly established as the result of the liquidation of the capitalist system of economy, the abolition of private ownership of the instruments and means of production in large industrial enterprises and the nationalization of such enterprises with a view to the complete abolition of the exploitation of man by man and the construction of a socialist system of society.

Art. 5. Socialist property in the Estonian SSR exists either in the form of state property (belonging to the whole people) or in the form of co-operative property.

475 Art. 6. The land, its mineral wealth, waters, forests, mills, factories, mines, rail, water and air transport, banks, communications, 421 large state-organized agricultural enterprises (state farms, machine and tractor stations and the like), as well as municipal enterprises and the bulk of the dwelling houses in the cities and industrial localities, are state property, that is, belong to the whole people.

474 Art. 7. The common enterprises of co-operative organizations, with their livestock and implements, the products of co-operative organizations, 421 as well as their common buildings, constitute the common, socialist property of the co-operative organizations.

1 [Errata: Insert "banks, transport and means of communication." Cf. Errata sheet, Cat. 116, p. 1 p. 111--Analyst]